

**ABERYSTWYTH
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Public Health Department

**Annual Report
1957**

ABERYSTWYTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Mayors of Aberystwyth

1956/57	1957/58
Alderman R.G.Pickford.	Councillor E.Jenkins

Committees dealing with Health matters

	<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chairman</u>	<u>Members</u>
(1)	Health & Housing Committee,	Councillor C.Knight,	All Members of the Council.
(2)	Housing Sub-Committee,	Councillor C.Knight,	Fourteen Members.
(3)	Public Works Committee,	Councillor J.John,	All Members of the Council.

Public Health Officers of the Authority

Medical Officer of Health,	...	Dulyn Thomas, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector, Housing Inspector, Inspector of Meat and other Foods,	...	O.R.N.Hoskins, M.R.S.H.
Additional Public Health Inspector, Housing Inspector, Inspector of Meat and other Foods,	...	D.M.Lewis, M.R.S.H.

Your Worship the Mayor, the Chairman of the Health and Housing Committee,
Aldermen and Members of the Borough Council.

PREFACE

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of the Health Department for the year ended 31st December, 1957.

The number of live births registered during the year was one hundred and seventeen - a decrease of twenty-seven on the 1956 figure. Four of these were illegitimate. Three still births were registered. Only one infant died under the age of twelve months compared to seven in the previous year. No mother died as a result of childbirth.

One hundred and forty seven deaths were registered during 1957 - twelve fewer than in the preceeding year. Fifty-nine deaths were ascribed to heart disease, twenty-eight to cancer and twenty-seven to vascular lesions of the nervous system (strokes). The remaining deaths were due to a variety of causes as recorded later in this report.

The number of notified cases of tuberculosis was eleven. Eight of these affected the lungs. One death was caused by this disease.

The only cases of infectious diseases notified during the year were fifty cases of measles. It is most re-assuring to note the complete absence of notifications of cases of poliomyelitis, dysentery and food poisoning.

A more detailed account of the work of the Health Department will be found in the ensuing pages which includes a Section prepared by the Chief Public Health Inspector.

The need for additional housing in the Borough is still very great. No houses or flats have been built by the Council during the past two years and it is to be hoped that we shall be able to proceed with our plans for the erection of new dwellings in the near future.

I wish to thank you, Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Members of the Council for the great interest you have shown in the work of the Health Department.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2016 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b28823898>

SUMMARY OF GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,141.
Population (Census 1951)	..	..	..	..	..	..	9,315.
Population (Registrar General's Mid-Year 1957).	..	..	..	..	..	..	10,400.
Rateable Value at 1st April 1957	..	..	..	..	..	..	£171,667.
Rateable Value at 1st April 1958	..	..	..	..	..	..	£171,245.
Sum represented by a penny rate in 1957/58	..	..	..	..	..	..	£580.
Estimated sum to be obtained by a penny rate 1958/59	..	..	..	..	..	..	£584.

Number of various premises at 1st January 1957

<u>Domestic</u>						
Houses and Flats (other than Agricultural Dwelling houses)						2,669.
Agricultural Dwelling houses	..	..	..	..	..	6.
<u>Commercial</u>						
Shops with Private Dwelling Accommodation	..	..	..	..	..	126.
Shops (including Banks in shopping areas) and Cafes.	..	..	..	..	..	154.
Offices (including Banks in office areas)	..	..	..	..	..	70.
Htels and Boarding Houses..	..	..	..	..	..	30.
Holiday Camps and Caravan Fields	..	..	..	..	..	2.
Warehouses, Stores and Workshops (Non-Industrial)	..	..	..	..	..	118.
Garages (Commercial) Petrol Filling Stations and Car Parks.	..	..	..	..	..	48.
Lock-up Garages	..	..	..	..	..	125.
Markets	..	..	..	..	..	2.
<u>On-Licensed Premises</u>						
Public Houses	..	..	..	..	..	26.
Restaurants	..	..	..	..	..	1.
<u>Entertainment and Recreational</u>						
Cinemas	..	..	..	..	..	2.
Theatres and Music Halls	..	..	..	..	..	1.
Sports Grounds, Golf Courses	..	..	..	..	..	5.
Social Clubs, Community Centres and Public Halls	..	..	..	..	..	16.
Other places of entertainment and recreation	..	..	..	..	..	5.
<u>Public Utility</u>						
Water, Gas, etc.,	..	..	..	..	..	3.
<u>Educational and Cultural</u>						
Libraries, Museums, etc.,	..	..	..	..	..	2.
Schools and Colleges, etc.,	..	..	..	..	..	9.
University Colleges	..	..	..	..	..	21.
<u>Miscellaneous</u>						
Crown Property	..	..	..	..	..	23.
Other Hospitals, Clinics, etc.,	..	..	..	..	..	2.
Cemeteries	..	..	..	..	..	1.
Town Halls and Municipal Offices	..	..	..	..	..	4.
Road Transport - Depots and Yards	..	..	..	..	..	1.
Properties not classified	..	..	..	..	..	27.
<u>Industrial</u>						
Factories and Workshops	..	..	..	..	..	14.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

			<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Number of registered live births	..	..	Leg: 113	61	52
			Illeg: 4	3	1
Number of registered still births	..	..	Leg: 3	3	-
			Illeg: -	-	-
Number of deaths of infants under 1 year	..		Leg: 1	-	1
			Illeg: -	-	-
Number of deaths of infants under 4 weeks	..		Leg: -	-	-
			Illeg: -	-	-
Number of deaths of women ascribed to childbirth	..		-	-	-
Number of registered deaths	..	..	.. 147	77	70
Areal comparability factor for births	..		.. 1.08.		
Areal comparability factor for deaths	..		.. 0.74.		

CAUSES OF DEATH

<u>Registrar General's</u>			<u>Number of deaths</u>		
<u>Code Number</u>	<u>Cause of Death</u>		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory ..		1	-	1
2	Tuberculosis, other ..		-	-	-
3	Syphilitic disease ..		-	-	-
4	Diphtheria ..		-	-	-
5	Whooping Cough ..		-	-	-
6	Meningococcal infections ..		-	-	-
7	Acute poliomyelitis ..		-	-	-
8	Measles ..		-	-	-
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases		-	-	-
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach ..		5	1	6
11	Malignant neoplasm lung, bronchus		4	-	4
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast ..		-	3	3
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus ..		-	1	1
14	Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms		8	6	14
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia ..		-	-	-
16	Diabetes ..		1	-	1
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system		7	20	27
18	Coronary disease, angina ..		16	7	23
19	Hypertension with heart disease..		2	3	5
20	Other heart disease ..		13	18	31
21	Other circulatory disease ..		3	2	5
22	Influenza ..		-	-	-
23	Pneumonia ..		4	-	4
24	Bronchitis ..		5	2	7
25	Other diseases of respiratory system		1	1	2
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ..		1	-	1
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea		-	-	-
28	Nephritis and nephrosis ..		-	-	-
29	Hyperplasia of prostate ..		1	-	1
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion..		-	-	-
31	Congenital malformations ..		-	1	1
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases		4	5	9
33	Motor vehicle accidents ..		-	-	-
34	All other accidents ..		1	-	1
35	Suicide ..		-	-	-
36	Homicide and operations of war ..		-	-	-
Total ..			77	70	147

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following is a list of the notifications of infectious disease, other than tuberculosis, received during the year.

Cholera	..	..	..	..	Nil
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	Nil
Dysentery (amoebic and bacillary)	..	..	..	..	Nil
Encephalitis	..	..	..	..	Nil
Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	Nil
Food poisoning	..	..	..	..	Nil
Malaria	..	..	..	..	Nil
Measles	..	..	..	..	50
Meningococcal meningitis	..	..	..	..	Nil
Ophthalmia neonatorum	..	..	..	..	Nil
Paratyphoid fever	..	..	..	..	Nil
Plague	..	..	..	..	Nil
Pneumonia (acute primary and acute influenzal)	..	..	..	..	Nil
Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	..	..	..	..	Nil
Relapsing Fever..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	Nil
Smallpox	..	..	..	..	Nil
Typhoid Fever	..	..	..	..	Nil
Typhus Fever	..	..	..	..	Nil
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	Nil

TUBERCULOSIS

The following table shows the sex and age distribution of the new cases notified during the year.

AGE GROUP	RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0 - 1	-	-	-	-
1 - 2	-	-	-	-
2 - 4	-	-	-	-
5 - 9	-	-	-	-
10 - 14	-	-	-	-
15 - 19	2	-	-	-
20 - 24	1	1	-	1
25 - 34	1	1	-	-
35 - 44	1	-	-	2
45 - 54	-	-	-	-
55 - 64	-	-	-	-
65 - 74	1	-	-	-
75 +	-	-	-	-
Totals :-	6	2	-	3

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

They are as follows :-

- (a) Ante-natal clinics are held by the consultant in obstetrics. The district midwife attends with the patient and consequently becomes fully conversant with all the medical aspects of the case prior to delivery.
 - (b) Infant welfare clinics are held twice weekly at Swyddfa'r Sir and fortnightly at the Neuadd Goffa, Penparcau. A few Aberystwyth residents find it more convenient to attend the fortnightly clinic held at the Church Hall, Llanbadarn.
 - (c) The domiciliary midwifery service is carried out by three district nurses who are also certified midwives.
 - (d) The Borough is covered by two Health Visitors, one of whom devotes her entire time to the Borough area whilst the other also covers part of the surrounding Rural District.
 - (e) Home nursing is in the hands of the above three district nurses.
 - (f) Vaccination against small pox is carried out by the person's own doctor, but immunisation against diphtheria is performed partly by the former and partly by the local health authority. The County Council has presented no scheme for whooping cough immunisation. B.C.G. immunisation is carried out on school children of a selected age group and upon those who have been in intimate contact with a case of tuberculosis and who display susceptibility to the disease.
 - (g) The headquarters of the ambulance service are at Aberystwyth. Three ambulances and a county relief ambulance are stationed in the town.
 - (h) Arrangements for the prevention of illness consist of periodic talks and advice given by the staff of the local health authority. Care and after care are in the hands of the health visitors and the district nurses.
 - (i) Domestic help is provided by suitable persons engaged locally.
 - (j) Aberystwyth Hospital is the principal general hospital in the area of the Mid-Wales Hospital Management Committee. The infectious diseases' unit is situated a short distance from the town at Tanybwllch Hospital. The mental hospital normally serving the area is St. David's Hospital, Carmarthen.
-

SECTION 47 OF THE NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

This Section gives the local authority power, on the Certificate of the Medical Officer of Health, to apply to a Court of Summary Jurisdiction for the removal of persons unable to devote to themselves and not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention.

Persons dealt with under this Section must either (a) be suffering from grave chronic disease or (b) be aged, infirm or physically handicapped and living in insanitary conditions.

Action was taken under this Act in respect of two men.

The one was a man aged eighty years who was living alone and suffering from influenza and pneumonia. He flatly refused to enter hospital on his doctor's advice. Action was taken under this Act and he was removed to Tanybwllch Hospital (Fever Section). He has since died.

The other case concerned a man who lived under appallingly insanitary conditions. He was removed to Bronglais Hospital (Welfare Section) and has been rehabilitated very well. It is hoped that he will be able to enter a Home for the Aged in the near future.

Dwyn Thomas.

Medical Officer of Health.

Swyddfa'r Sir,
(Council Offices)
Aberystwyth.

Tel: Aberystwyth 7581-9.

REPORT OF CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

To The Mayor, Chairman of the Health and Housing Committee,
Aldermen, and Members of the Aberystwyth Borough Council.

Gentlemen,

I submit my part of the Annual Report for your
consideration.

The contents show the result of team work and the
support of the Council in many difficult aspects is appreciated.
There is so much work to do as the result of food hygiene and
housing legislation together with the urgent need for a new
abattoir that every assistance from the Council is most welcome.

STAFF

The staff of the Department consists of :-

Chief Public Health Inspector,	..	O.R.N.Hoskins, M.R.S.H.
Additional Public Health Inspector,	..	D.M.Lewis, M.R.S.H.
Clerical Officer,	..	W.D.James,
Rodent Officer,	..	C.Y.Jones.

GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Enforcement

Complaints received	..	..	..	..	109
Complaints not justified	..	..	..	..	5
Matters referred to other Departments for abatement	..				180
Preliminary Notices served	..	..		..	53
Number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation	..			..	13
Number of representations made to the Local Authority :-					
(a) Statutory Notices applied for	..		..	..	18
(b) (i) Closing Orders applied for	..		..	..	1
(ii) Demolition Orders applied for	..		..	..	-
Number of formal notices served requiring the execution of works	..	..	..	..	18
Number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	..	..	..	..	11
Number of (a) Demolition Orders made	..			..	-
(b) Closing Orders becoming effective				..	-
Number of houses demolished	..	..		..	-
Nuisance Orders issued	..	..	..	..	1
Nuisance Orders complied	..	..	..	..	1
Factory Act Notices served	..	..		..	2
Factory Act Notices complied	..	..		..	2
Number of dwellings visited re overcrowding	..			..	3
Number of dwellings overcrowded	..	..		..	-
Number of houses inspected (Public Health Act and Housing Act)	..	..	..	..	283
Number of houses re-inspected (Public Health Act and Housing Act)	..	..	..	..	274
Premises other than houses inspected	..			..	8
Visits for infectious disease	..	..		..	19
Disinfections	..	..	..	..	16
Owners or Contractors interviewed	..	..		..	59
Factories	..	..		..
Non-power :- Bakehouses	..	..		..	-
Dressmakers and Milliners	..			..	3
Laundries	..	..		..	1
Miscellaneous	..	..		..	2
Power :- Bakehouses	..	..		..	4
Laundries	..	..		..	-
Miscellaneous	..	..		..	39
Work Places, other than Offices	..	..		..	1
Offices	..	..	..	..	-

Other classifications

Tents, Vans, Sheds or similar structures	..	..	6
Cinemas and Amusement Places	..	..	4
Public Houses and Licensed Premises	..	..	40
Water supply and sampling visits	..	..	132
Refuse Tips	..	..	4
Accumulations	..	..	28
Sewers	..	..	21
Drains	..	..	91
Water courses	..	..	3
Public conveniences	..	..	79
Cesspools	..	..	18
Flooding	..	..	17
Swine, other animals and birds	..	..	4
Smoke or grit observations	..	..	7
Inspections for infestations of vermin	..	..	6
Slaughterhouse visits	..	..	609
Visits not classified	..	..	97

Food inspection

Milk Regulations, Dairies, Milkshops & Purveyors visits..	36
Ice-cream premises and vehicles (Inspection & sampling) ..	43
Restaurants and Food preparing premises	.. .. 50
Food premises - Food Hygiene Regulations	.. .. 69
Butchers	.. .. 16
Greengrocers and Fishmongers	.. .. 10
Railway Station re food	.. .. 11

Shops Act, 1950.

Shops visits 5
--------------	---------

Pests Act, 1949.

Premises inspected 50
--------------------	----------

Rent Act, 1957.

Inspections arising 10
---------------------	----------

SUMMARY OF WORK EXECUTED

Houses

Dirty or verminous conditions remedied	..	..	4
Walls repaired	..	..	7
Outside plastering repaired	..	..	4
Inside plastering repaired	..	..	14
Roofs renewed or repaired	..	..	10
Chutes, downpipes or gutters renewed or repaired	..	..	15
Ceilings repaired	..	..	4
Window sashes or frames renewed or repaired	..	..	5
Grates or ovens repaired or renewed	..	..	3
Yard paving relaid or repaired	..	..	1
Accumulations removed	..	..	6
Fuel storage provided	..	..	1

Drainage

Drains tested, Water	..	..	6
Drains tested, Smoke	..	..	5
New drains constructed	..	..	1
Drains re-laid or repaired	..	..	6
Drains cleansed	..	..	8
Inspection or Intercepting Chambers provided	..	..	2
Soil pipes or Vent shafts fixed or repaired	..	..	3
Disconnections of domestic waste from rainwater pipes	..	..	1
Troughs or sinks provided	..	..	1
Sink waste pipe provided or repaired	..	..	2
Water taps or pipes repaired	..	..	1

Water Closets

W.C.'s reconstructed or repaired	..	..	4
New pans fixed	..	..	5
Flushing apparatus provided	..	..	2
Flushing apparatus repaired	..	..	2

Factory Act, 1937.

Sanitary accommodation found insufficient	..	..	3
Sanitary accommodation not separate for sexes	..	..	1
Provision of W.C.'s	..	..	2

Licensed Premises

Toilets provided	..	..	1
Toilets repaired	..	..	3
Ventilation or illumination improved	..	..	1

Moveable Dwellings, Public Health Act 1936.

Licenses issued authorising land to be used	1
---	----	----	---

MEAT INSPECTION (ABATTOIR)

The records indicate the work which has been carried out in both ante and post-mortem examination at the abattoir. In addition to this a very considerable amount of time has to be spent on records, certificates and other duties directly and indirectly connected with this work.

Aberystwyth Abattoir

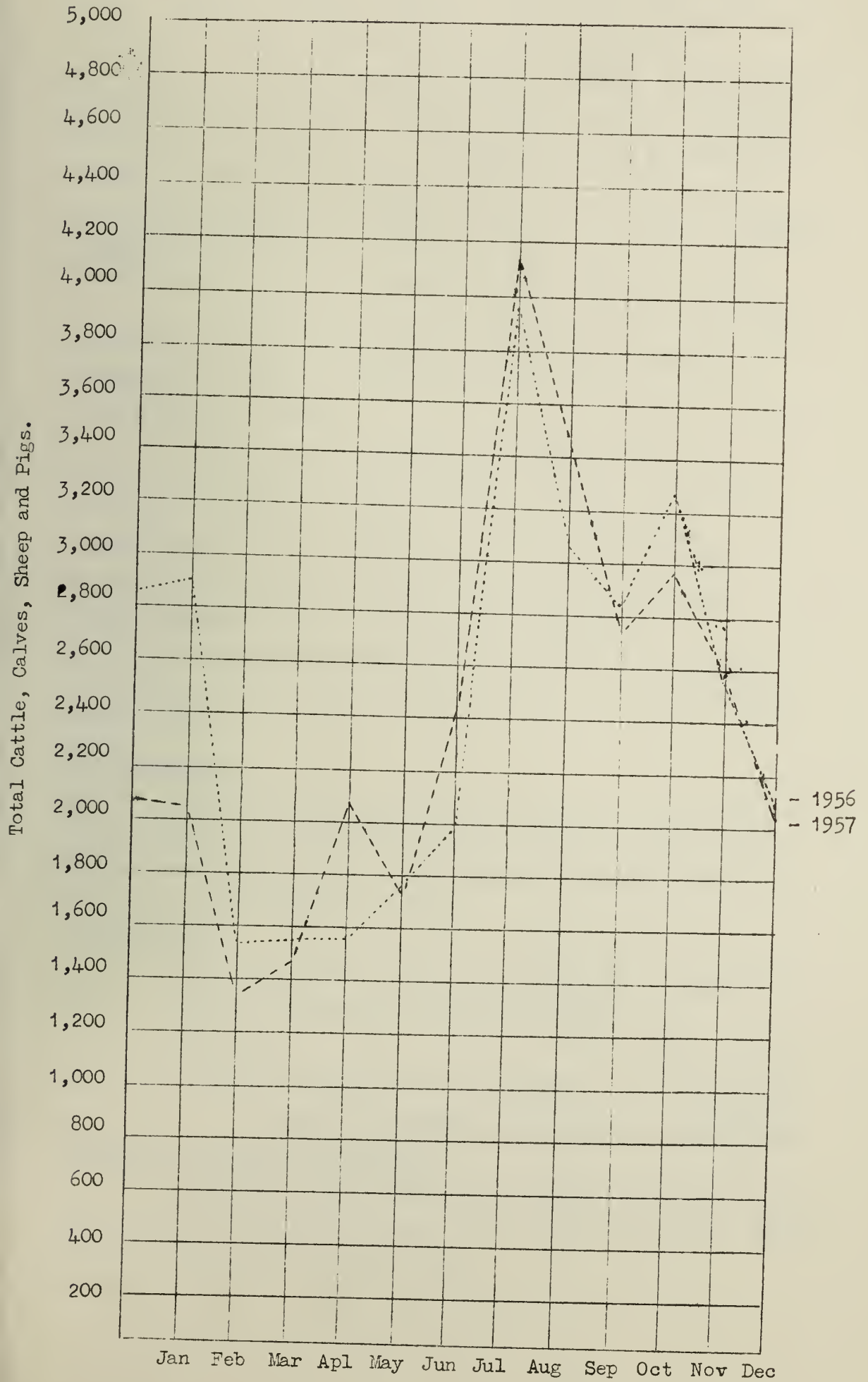
	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Goats	Total
Number of animals killed ..	1,058	2,659	22,721	3,444	4	28,886
<u>Percentage of Total.</u>						
<u>All diseases except T.B.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned ..	23	38	74	4	4	14,047 lbs.
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	247	2	607	101	-	7,259 lbs.
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B. ..	25.53%	2.41%	2.99%	3.05%	100%	
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned ..	12	-	-	-	-	4,321 lbs.
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	14	-	-	3	-	714 lbs.
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.	2.46%	-	-	.01%	-	
<u>Total weight of meat condemned at Abattoir =</u>						<u>26,341 lbs.</u>

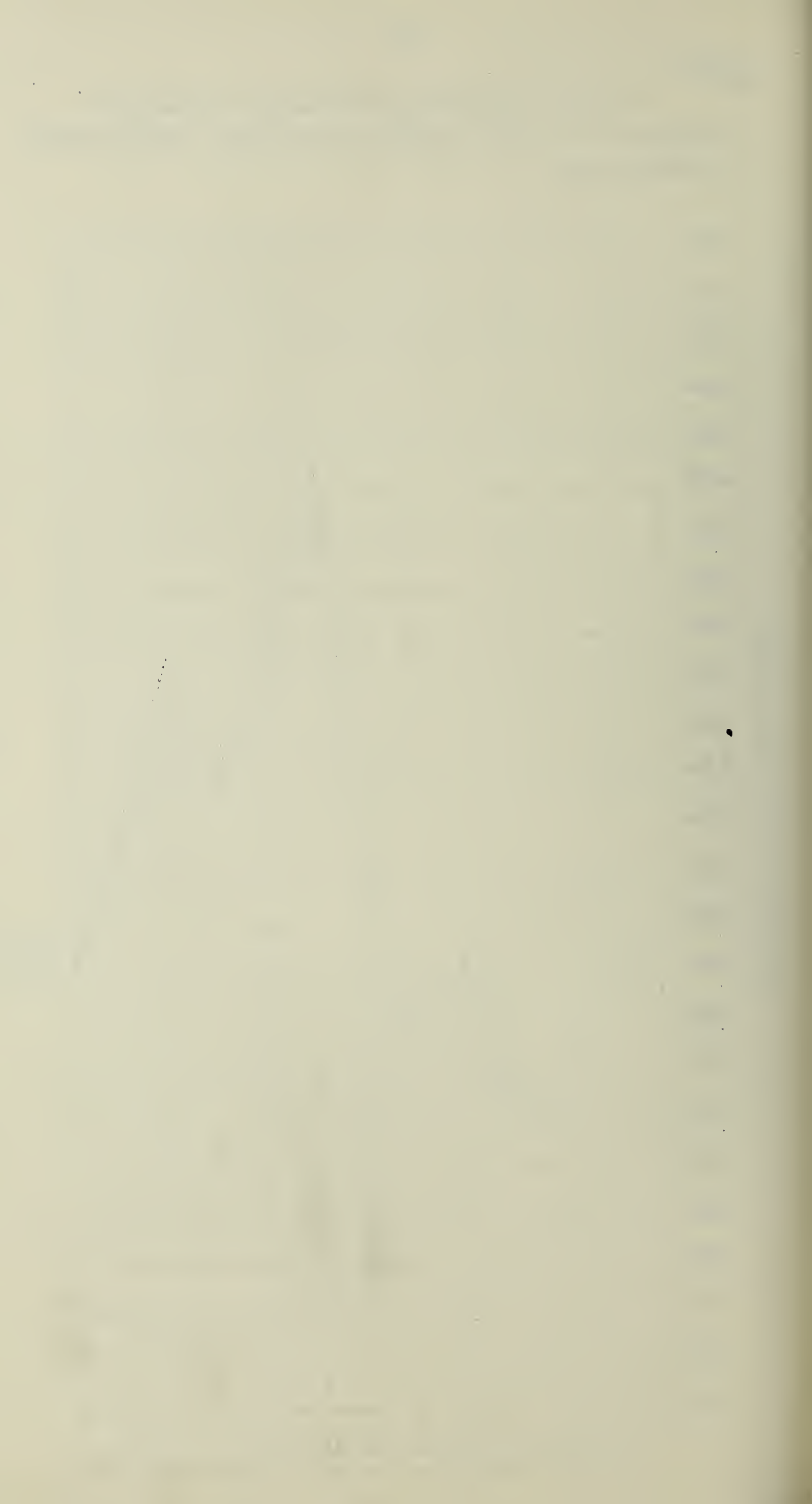
From the above tables the total throughput was actually a little below the 1956-57 report, but this was only in respect of calves which have never remained a very constant figure. More cattle and 17% more pigs passed through compared with the previous year. The number of visits for the purpose of meat inspection was 609, and 957 hours were spent in actual inspection. All meat and offal is inspected before leaving the premises and where meat in transit enters the abattoir inspection is carried out in this instance. Specimens where necessary are submitted for examination to the Veterinary Investigation Centre of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, at Aberystwyth, and the willing co-operation of that Department under Mr. L. Hughes has been of great assistance. The abattoir also deals with all the bovine animals under the Tuberculosis (Slaughter of Reactors) Order 1950, and in this connection close co-operation is maintained with the Animal Health Division through their Veterinary Inspector Mr. R. Dudleyke.

As a result of the T.B. reactors concentrated at this abattoir from the whole of the County, twelve were found to be so widely affected that total condemnation was necessary, whilst in fourteen cases parts of the carcass had to be condemned out of a total of sixty-seven reactors. The detailed post-mortem examination regarding fitness for human consumption was carried out by your meat inspectors.

ABATTOIR

The graph below shows the fluctuation of slaughtering through-put for the year. The monthly trend follows a similar pattern to previous years.





FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

Regulations.

It has not been possible to visit all the food premises in the town, although considerable improvement has been achieved in several instances especially in some of the larger food shops where extensive alterations have been secured in the food preparation sections, storage, refrigeration and sanitary provisions. Very few of the trades are voluntarily bringing their premises into conformity with the Regulations, with the result that there is a lot of time to be spent on enforcement. There is no doubt that some of the smaller concerns experience difficulty in finding suitable positions for the sinks and washbasins and other facilities which are required.

A lecture on Food Hygiene, illustrated by film strips, was given at the invitation of the Women's Institute in Penparcau, and further material has been acquired for use when the opportunity permits.

A major event during the year was the Royal Welsh Show which brought problems especially in view of the number of small caterers who appeared. The major catering was satisfactory, but there does seem to be a case for control at a higher level of the itinerant catering firms who make brief appearances with little regard for hygiene.

Registered premises for the manufacture of sausages or pot+ed, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale total eight.

Food inspection.

The various food premises were inspected and unsound food examined, both at traders premises and in the Department. A considerable proportion of the condemned food, which were all voluntarily surrendered, was meat.

Condemnations.

Fresh and canned meat and meat products ..	3,050 lbs.
(Which included 158 large tins of ham)	
Fish, wet	44 lbs.
Canned and Miscellaneous condemned ..	1,533 lbs.
<u>Total of foodstuffs condemned ..</u>	<u>4,627 lbs.</u>

Disposal of condemned foodstuffs.

Condemned food is disposed by puncture and burial in the case of most canned goods, whilst dried foods and remaining canned goods are destroyed by incineration.

ICE-CREAM

Routine sampling was carried out and for the first time 100% of the samples fell in Grades 1 and 2. This is a very considerable improvement even on the past year when results were good. It appears to be largely due to the increasing use of pre-packed factory made ice-cream prepared under more sterile conditions than can be obtained in the average small traders premises. The increasing sales of ice-cream seem to be in the well known brands and there is little evidence of increase in the private manufacturers.

The number of registered premises in the area of the Local Authority is now thirty-seven and the number of kiosks in seasonal use is three.

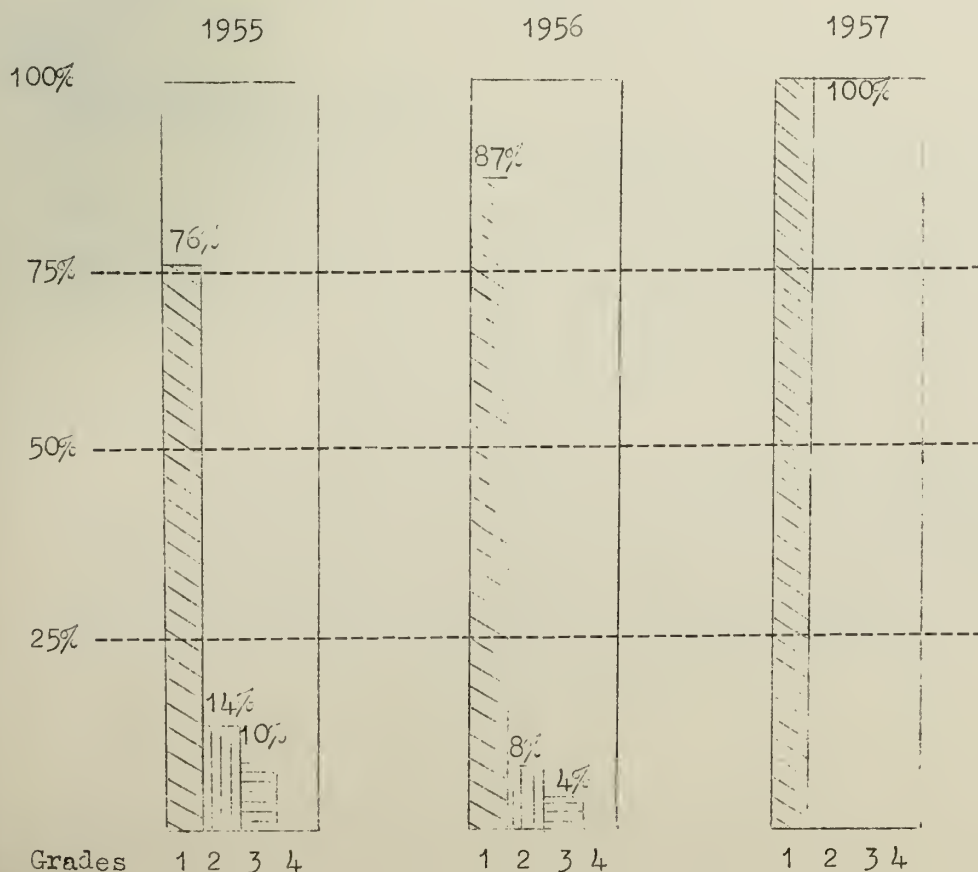
All new applications for registration are considered in the light of the Food Hygiene Regulations and they are not registered until they comply with the conditions demanded.

During the year twenty-nine samples of ice-cream were taken and the following results obtained :-

Grade 1	=	29	=	100%	)	=	100%
Grade 2	=	0	=	0%)		
Grade 3	=	0	=	0%			
Grade 4	=	0	=	0%			

In addition to the foregoing, one sample of an ice-lolly was taken and found to be satisfactory.

Comparative index of ice-cream samples
for past three years



FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 - 1948

Of the sixty-nine factories in the Borough, sixty-two are power operated and seven are non-power. The Ministry of Labour and National Service are responsible for the supervision of the power operated factories, excepting in the provision of sanitary accommodation. In the non-power factories responsibility is upon the Local Authority for cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation and drainage of floors. The following changes took place during the year, six factories being discontinued and two new undertakings were added to the register. Notifications are received in respect of building and engineering construction works within Section 107 and 108, and in this connection the Local Authority are responsible for securing provision of sanitary accommodation.

HOUSING

No new dwellings were constructed during the year by the Council, but five private premises were erected. The housing demand is somewhat below the previous year with 413 applications, 80% of these are in respect of families comprising couples and those with one child. This figure has been very much the same since 1953 and by comparison 15% of the applicants are families with two children.

New applications received were ninety-seven, and in respect of these accommodation was requested for two hundred and fifty-nine persons at their time of submission. New lettings numbered sixteen and accommodation was provided for fifty-five persons, whilst in addition fifteen families comprising fifth-three persons were transferred to make the best use of existing accommodation. Thus one hundred and eight persons were housed during the year.

WATER

Bacteriological sampling

Throughout the year a minimum of two samples per week are taken of drinking water from different parts of the Borough. These samples are submitted to the Area Public Health Laboratory for analysis and any necessary action taken. The results were as follows :-

Number of samples taken	=	105
"Highly Satisfactory"	=	104
"Unsatisfactory"	=	1

Concern was felt during the summer as the shortage of water necessitated appeals for economy which has to be exercised for a considerable amount of the summer season. No actual cut in supplies was made but the situation had to be closely watched.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS.

There are three dairy farms within the Borough, but the responsibility for milk on these premises is that of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Dairies (not being dairy farms) number eight and the registered Distributors which include a number of shops selling bottled milk only number twenty-eight.

Dealers operating under Licence or Supplementary Licence number nine.

Preliminary steps have been taken by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, to introduce an Order specifying the area as one within which the retail sale of milk will be restricted to the special designated milks. Every assistance has been given to this further advance.

Milk supplies in the district are mainly drawn from the County and only a very small quantity comes from outside, this all being "Pasteurised". A large proportion of the milk now being sold in the Borough is "Pasteurised" from one large dairy at Clarach. Loose milk sold ungraded is now very small in quantity and only its slightly cheaper price has maintained a small demand.

Fourteen samples were submitted to the Laboratory and one ungraded sample was found to be "Unsatisfactory", the necessary follow-up action being taken.

LICENSED VICTUALLING AND CLUES

With the co-operation of the Borough Surveyor it was possible to introduce the requirements for improved standards in one large premises arising from a change of conditions. The general standard of cleanliness continues to be good and the Licensing Justices have shown a most helpful interest in the hygiene of the premises. The general cleanliness is really a credit to the licencees, and one could wish that the same standards were always applied to other food premises.

DISINFECTION

The steam disinfecter has been in use twice and other disinfections have been secured by formaldehyde in our disinfection unit or on the premises.

Disinfection was carried out in sixteen cases of infectious disease. Two additional cases of non-notifiable disease were dealt with and nominal charges made for the work. Library books which had been exposed to infectious disease and submitted to the Department were disinfected and returned to the Library. In addition to the above two consignments of clothing for Italy, were disinfected before despatch and the appropriate certificate given.

Equipment is available for any normal emergency which may arise.

PESTS ACT, 1949.

Rats and Mice.

1st April 1957 to 31st March 1958	Owned by Local Authority (Non-domestic)	Dwelling houses (Local Authority and Private)	Other premises (Business and Industrial)	Total
Number of premises	12	2,675	838	3,525
Inspected as the result of :-				
(a) Notification	3	60	15	78
(b) Survey under the Act	6	399	35	440
(c) Otherwise	-	2	1	3
Total inspections & reinspections	152	864	184	1,200
Infested by mice	1	52	7	60
Infested by rats	8	36	10	54
Treated	9	88	17	114

Sewer baiting was done twice and each manhole in the Borough was inspected, pre-baited and poisoned, where infestations appeared to exist, this was repeated as often as necessary. There does not appear to be any major infestation remaining in the Borough and we are at last seeing the result of constant treatment. Such infestation as we have found has been of a minor character although somewhat widespread. There are 340 manholes in the Borough and a record is kept in respect of each.

Infestation complaints totalled 114, consisting of 54 rat and 60 infestations by mice. In each instance action was taken to secure abatement.

The above table summarises the result of seven block inspections which have covered a large area of the town in addition to the usual complaint work.

Disinfestation - Vermin.

Treatment was carried out in eleven business and domestic premises for infestation by fleas, bugs, beetles, wasps and ants. Charges were made and advice was given where necessary.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The Public Works Department under the control of the Borough Surveyor collect domestic and trade refuse with salvage at least once a week and more frequently as required. Tipping is carried out at Felin-y-mor and then covered to minimise nuisance. There are still numerous receptacles used for the storage of refuse awaiting collection and there is no doubt that proper covered refuse bins should be compulsory.

CESSPOOLS

Fifty-one dwellings are not connected to the public sewers and whilst a number have never given cause for complaint there is no doubt that they should all be connected to the public sewers or to small disposal works serving groups of premises.

A considerable improvement in emptying the cesspools has been achieved through the co-operation of the Aberayron Rural Council who have agreed to carry out work on a repayment basis. Since the introduction of their modern cesspool emptying vehicle there have been no complaints of spillage as formerly.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

An extensive report was submitted in connection with the condition and state of repair of the public conveniences in the Borough.

There is a problem in all areas especially where an influx of seasonal visitors occurs. The impression is gained that fewer sites and larger conveniences staffed by attendants during all normal hours would be a solution as the provision of hot and cold water, soap, towels and shoe cleaning equipment, slipper or shower baths, could be offered. In view of the fact that Aberystwyth is a terminus town for travellers there seems a case for this to be considered.

CAMPING AND CARAVAN SITES.

One organised holiday is established within the Borough and is provided with the necessary sanitary accommodation consisting of flush toilets, ablutions and refuse collection facilities. The occasional problem which arises in any undertaking of this nature is resolved by the very willing co-operation of the proprietors.

No private sites in addition to the above have been authorised by the Council.

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH.

In accordance with the International Sanitary Regulations, (World Health Regulations No.2) to which Great Britain is a signatory power, thirty-eight international vaccination certificates of persons residing in Aberystwyth and proceeding to certain destinations overseas were authenticated in the prescribed manner.

HEALTH CONFERENCE, ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS.

Eastbourne, 15th to 20th September, 1957.

The Chief Public Health Inspector attended as your representative and following the opening of the Conference, the undermentioned papers were used as a basis for discussion.

"A Survey of Recent Housing Legislation" introduced by J.F.Garner Esq., LL.M., Town Clerk, Borough of Andover.

"The Impact of the Rent Act" introduced by T.H.Iddison Esq., Chief Public Health Inspector, Borough of Dartford.

"Food Standards" introduced by H.E.Monk Esq., B.Sc., F.R.I.C., M.Inst.S.P., R.A.Inst.W.E., County Analyst for Kent.

"Raw Meat as a Source of Bacterial Food Poisoning and its Possible Control" introduced by Dr. Betty C.Hobbs, B.Sc., Ph.D., Dip.Bact., F.R.S.H., Food Hygiene Laboratory, Central Public Health Laboratory, London.

"Clean Meat Production" introduced by S.Cayton Esq., F.R.S.H., M.Inst.F., A.M.Inst.P.C., Chief Public Health Inspector, County Borough of West Bromwich.

"Clean Air - An Economic, Social and Administrative Problem" introduced by A.Gilpin Esq., F.Sc.(Icon) Inspector for Air Pollution, County Borough of West Bromwich.

"River and Sea Pollution - A Public Health Challenge" introduced by J.Marriott Esq., Chief Public Health Inspector, Wetherby Rural District Council.

"The Port Health Authority" introduced by T.L.Mackie Esq., M.B.E., F.R.S.H., M.I.N.A., Chief Inspector, Port of London Health Authority.

"Imported Food" introduced by P.W.Coome Esq., Senior Food Inspector, Port of London Health Authority.

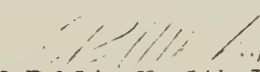
"Fish and the Public Health Inspector" introduced by J.D.Syme Esq., O.B.E., Chief Port Health Inspector, Grimsby.

"They have their Uses - A Review of the Residential Caravan Problem" introduced by A.H.V.Marsden Esq., Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector, Eton Rural District Council.

This concludes my report.

I am Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,


Chief Public Health Inspector.

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Aberystwyth.

Tel: Aberystwyth 479.

